

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A database management~~ An apparatus for managing a database, the database having a hierarchical database and including lower and upper classes, the apparatus comprising [[:]] :

a processor;

[[a]] an extracting unit that extracts detailed information on at least one of characterizing a class and a property which is included in at least one referenced dictionary and which is referenced to by a referencing dictionary, the detailed information including one of a name or a definition concerning the class or the property,

the referencing dictionary having a hierarchical structure in which [[a]] the lower class classes inherit properties inherits a property of [[an]] the upper class classes,

each of the class and the property having an identifier which uniquely identifies each of the class and the property,

the referenced dictionary having a referencing relation described by the identifier as a pointer with the referencing dictionary [[:]] ;

[[a]] an adding unit that adds the extracted detailed information to the referencing dictionary [[:]] ;

a dictionary data organizing scheme-determining unit that accepts an input of the referencing dictionary having added the detailed information, and makes a

determination on the information of the extraction extent of the referenced dictionary
included in the accepted referencing dictionary;

a dictionary database-structuring unit that structures the referencing dictionary
according to one of a result of the determination by the dictionary data organizing
scheme determining unit or a previously stored version of the information on the
specifying scheme of the extraction extent of the reference dictionary, and

an output unit that outputs ~~added~~ the structured referencing dictionary.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the adding unit organizes the referencing dictionary by adding detailed information on the property referenced to in the referenced dictionary to the referencing dictionary.

4. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the adding unit organizes the referencing dictionary by adding detailed information on the property which is referenced to, and detailed information on the class which defines the property in the referenced dictionary to the referencing dictionary.

5. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the adding unit organizes the referencing dictionary by adding detailed information on the property which is referenced to, detailed information on the class which defines the property, and

detailed information on a supplier in the referenced dictionary to the referencing dictionary.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
a ~~dictionary displaying~~ dictionary-displaying unit that displays organized content of the referencing dictionary in the hierarchical structure including a referencing relation.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
a dictionary data organizing ~~scheme-adding~~ scheme-adding unit that adds information on a specifying scheme of an extraction extent of at least one of the referenced dictionary which the referencing dictionary references to, to the referencing dictionary, when a part of the referenced dictionary is extracted for an organization of the referenced dictionary.

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:
a dictionary data organizing ~~scheme-specifying~~ scheme-specifying unit $[[,]]$ that brings about a specification of the information on the specifying scheme of the extraction extent of the referenced dictionary to be added to the referencing dictionary.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, wherein the dictionary data organizing ~~scheme-determining~~ scheme-determining unit makes determination by reading out the information on the specifying scheme of the extraction extent of the referenced dictionary to be added to the referencing dictionary.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[9]]~~ 1, further comprising ~~[[;]]~~ :

a duplicate data ~~processing-specifying~~ processing-specifying unit that previously specifies which is to be put precedence between the result of determination by the dictionary data organizing ~~scheme-determining~~ scheme-determining unit and the previously stored version of the information on the specifying scheme of the extraction extent of the referenced dictionary, when data in the result of determination is not consistent with corresponding data in the information on the specifying scheme.

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising:

a dictionary data organizing ~~scheme-displaying~~ scheme-displaying unit that displays the information on the specifying scheme of the extraction extent for at least one of the referenced dictionary which is referenced to by the referencing dictionary.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for managing a database, the database having a hierarchical database and including lower and upper classes, comprising:

extracting detailed information ~~on at least one of~~ characterizing a class and a property which is included in at least one referenced dictionary and which is referenced to by the referencing dictionary, the detailed information including one of a name or a definition concerning the class or the property,

the referencing dictionary having a hierarchical structure in which ~~[[a]] the lower class~~ classes inherit properties ~~inherits a property of~~ ~~[[an]] the upper class~~ classes,

each of the class and the property having an identifier which uniquely identifies each of the class and the property,

the referenced dictionary having a referencing relation described by the identifier as a pointer with the referencing dictionary;

adding the extracted detailed information to the referencing dictionary~~[[,]]~~ ;

accepting an input of the referencing dictionary having added the detailed information, and making a determination on the information of the extraction extent of the referenced dictionary included in the accepted referencing dictionary;

structuring the referencing dictionary according to one of a result of the determination or a previously stored version of the information on the specifying scheme of the extraction extent of the reference dictionary, and

outputting ~~added~~ the structured referencing dictionary.